# The LongPath

June 2024 - Volume 48 Issue 6

A North Alabama DX Club Publication



#### Contents:

From the President
Dayton 2024
DX Cluster Spotting
Etiquette

Upcoming DX Contests

DXpeditions in June 2024

Club Business and Announcements

NADXC "Club Fact Sheet"

#### Contributors:

AC4G AG4W K3FRK N4NM NG3K

••••



### From the President

By Bruce Smith, AC4G

The days sure seem to fly by with the influx of warmer weather. It seems like just yesterday that it was the month of April. I was hoping to have started some antenna projects, but the warm weather and other necessary work seems to jump ahead of any antenna work that I want to start. I hope our NADXC members do a better job of organizing and planning, so that our antenna projects get completed sooner than later.

Then there is Johnny, KR4F; Steve, AG4W; and perhaps others I do not know about who had damage in the recent storms and tornados. Their projects are all dependent on how much the insurance companies pay out. I hope they can get reimbursed to purchase new towers, antennas, and equipment to get back on-the-air fast. We should all be ready if called upon by our members in need so that the NADXC membership can help with any assistance to get their stations back on the air. This is just what we do – help one another in times of need.

I hope most of us have been onthe-air chasing the station FT4GL from Glorioso Island, who has been active for a week and plans to be there even after this article gets published, barring no equipment failure(s). Many of the NADXC membership has been chasing FT4GL and has put their QSOs in their logbook for a new DXCC country. For myself, I worked a station in the 1990's on 20m, but still needed them on many bands to fill-in my empty band slots. If you haven't worked this "rare" DXCC entity, I would recommend getting onthe-air. There have been other good entities on the air, many active on the higher bands such as 10m through 40m.

This brings me to 6m, you know, "you have to be present to win!" Well. last week I received a text message that a "VK8" was on 6m during the annual Indianapolis 500 Indy Car race broadcast on television. With only 20 laps remaining, I waited to run to the shack and make an attempt to work this station. Once the race ended, I made a mad blast to the shack. All I heard were a few stateside stations. I later heard that two of our club members made the QSO with the "VK8". The opening lasted for about ten minutes, but they were "present to win" the QSO. I was not and did not. A few days later, I left my rig on all day as I was away doing some work for some-Once I got back that lateafternoon, I scrolled back down on the digital mode to see what I missed on

# From the President (continued)

six meters. Apparently, there were many Europeans working stations in our area with fairly strong signals. I was not present, and I did not win. I was heart-broken since I am still needing 5 DXCC entities to achieve my Six Meter DXCC Award. Kudos to the few in our area who were alert to the 6m opening.

I hope our NADXC members will consider attending our meeting in person this month. We need to elect a new Secretary-Treasurer since Barry Barton, WA4HR is having to step aside due to health issues. We also need to discuss more about the banquet, DX worked, DX to be funded, and miscellaneous other old & new business. I am hoping to hear some updates from the Dayton Hamvention and any rumors being distributed. As usual, we will have ZOOM up and running for those unable to attend in person. I am looking forward to seeing everyone Tuesday night, June 11, at our meeting place, the Signals Museum of Information Explosion on University Drive, Huntsville, AL at 6:30 P.M. Until the meeting, take care, good DX, and 73!

### Dayton 2024

By Steve Werner, AG4W

The Dayton Hamvention is my Disneyland. Thursday evening through the Saturday night Contest Banquet is so exciting, regardless of the weather. This year we had rain Saturday morning, which made for muddy shoes in the swap meet area and a very crowded vendor area. The last 2 years, Bob K8KI, Mike KF4BOG, and I drove up Thursday and stayed at an Airbnb. This year's location was central to the banquets and Hamvention.

The vendor area was quite crowded this year.

We usually go to the Four Days in May on Thursday night and see all the new QRP kits at Vendor Night. In the past, I have purchased several QRP kits at that event. This year Bob invited me to the ARRL Donors Banquet. It was held at the Air Force Muse-

um, which is amazing. Bob even got to see a C-130 Gunship he flew on. It was obvious that it brought back many memories. It was interesting to talk to the ARRL leadership.

I always learn so much from Dayton and walk away with many new ideas for



Bob, K8KI in front of the C-130

projects. I also enjoy talking to the leadership of the ham vendors. It was sad that MFJ was not present this year. R&L also did not show up. I like to give ideas to the product vendors like Ham Radio Deluxe so that they can better serve their customers. This year I was focused on issues they have with their Satellite and Rotor package.

I read about the S.A.T. interface from CSN Technologies. It allows for easier adaptation of doppler correction and rotor control for all the cur-

Page 2 The LongPath June 2024 Volume 48 Issue 6

# Dayton 2024 (continued)



S.A.T. interface from CSN Technologies.

rent ham satellites. I saw a nice demonstration of it at DX Engineering and was hooked. It is advertised as plug and play. It wasn't, but I was also told the customer support was excellent. It was better than that. The

evening of submitting a request for support, I was on the phone with not one, but all three founders of the company. They spent an hour and a half with me, and I learned a great deal from them. I also gave them some good ideas. I love the interface and the integrated logging function with HRD. It also works with PST Rotor software, which interfaces with just about every rotor. The biggest issue is dealing with firewall issues. I am having so



The S.A.T. interface facilitates working through all current ham satellites.

much more fun with the IO-117 Greencube Satellite now that doppler is working right. The best you can do with HRD is get the transmit part to work and use RIT for receive. I finally got the AMSAT SatPC32 software to work for doppler on transmit and receive before moving to S.A.T.

When I purchased the S.A.T. interface, DX Engineering included two 6-inch rulers and a PC board. I saw in their catalog it is a clever dipole kit with the rulers as end insulators and the PC board as the center insulator.

My 160 Meter matching interface box was in very bad shape, so I was interested in finding a new box for it. For \$4 I got an outdoor telephone interface box. I removed the 6 transient surge protectors and telephone interfaces and made a plastic internal cuts and in short order it was installed under



Steve repurposed a \$4 telephone interface box.

the 160 Meter vertical. The CWS ByteMark Unun interfaces 50 0hms to 12.5 ohms which is the input impedance of my 52-foot top loaded vertical.

Bob got a great looking Millen grid dip meter with coils. I couldn't resist getting a less than \$10 Eico model. These were very popular when I started in ham radio in the 60's. It



Steve bought an Eico grid dip meter.

Page 3 The LongPath June 2024 Volume 48 Issue 6

# Dayton 2024 (continued)





The internals of Steve's new grid dip meter.



Steve's project box came with an extra surprise inside.

used 1 tube. It will be a nice restoration project with some interesting experiments. It looks like it works. I just had to open it up.

I purchased one plastic project box for \$5 and found it had a keyer kit inside it with all the switches and controls. That may be another fun unexpected project. The board was assembled. I wonder if someone built a kit, and it didn't work.

recently ran out of LEDs for my projects. I got a lifetime supply (250 LEDs) for \$2 and another project box with controls and 2 BNC connectors for \$2. I was looking at a UHF N connector 12VDC relay in an interesting configuration. Tim, AB4B taught me once that if you see a



Steve walked away with a lifetime supply of LEDs and another project box that contained numerous spare parts.

12VDC relay at a hamfest cheap, buy it. Many are 24VDC relays. This one was marked \$10. I showed a real interest in it, and he gave it to me. I have already tested it. I don't think it will handle much power but will be great for the input side of an amplifier.

Both the DX Banquet and Contest Banquet were good as usual. I made some great contacts at the DX Banquet that will be useful for future DXpeditions and their funding.

If you have never been to Dayton, it is time to go to ham Disneyland. You will go back again.



Another score: Steve picked up a free 12VDC relay. It may be perfect for a future amplifier project.

Page 4 The LongPath June 2024 Volume 48 Issue 6

### **DX Cluster Spotting Etiquette**

By Bruce Smith, AC4G

For many years, the DX community setup many systems that allowed an individual DX'er to share information in real time that a specific DX station was active on a particular band and mode. First, hams alerted each other by using the telephone. One might get a call about 2:00 A.M. in the wee hours of the morning (did not set well with the spouse). When this was used, a ham would call his buddy and hang up on the second ring. This alerted the buddy that there was DX onthe-air. Later, DX clubs began using 2m repeaters to alert each other. These were used quite excessively by members of DX clubs to share DX spots 24/7. The 2m repeater was eventually replaced by the 2m packet clusters, where DX'ers could send DX spots via a modem-linked computer and their 2m rig. A "spot" is a shortcut for submitting the frequency, mode, and station callsign of an active DX station on-the-air. This method worked out well, allowing a DX'er to keep their packet system running all night without the intrusion of earlymorning phone calls to wake-up the spouse, which would often make for a dreary next day.

Today, the DX community has advanced to using DX spotting clusters, utilizing the internet to alert hams locally, regionally, and world-wide that a particular DX station is on-the-air. The number of spots displayed is set by software using filter settings that allows for 25, 50, 100, or an infinite number of spots to be displayed. A DX'er can send a "spot" via the cluster, which gets distributed to DX'ers around the world in a just a few seconds.

Many feel that the spotting net is bad for ham radio because it encourages people to be lazy, staring at the computer screen until a DX station comes up on the amateur radio bands. Some say that it is cheating because one is not using the search and pounce method to work DX stations. Other hams feel the spotting net is a gift to amateur radio, and feel they would be lost without it. Even contesting organizations such as the ARRL and CQ Magazine realize the benefit of using DX cluster for spotting DX stations to increase multipliers and scores. These organizations have even added contest categories that allow contesters to use spotting networks. Some even allow the use of self-spotting.

The DX cluster is a tool and when used correctly, can be a highly effective and useful tool. Many DX'ers indicate one should not self-spot. However, sometimes, DXpeditions self-spot, especially when propagation is terrible or when they continuously call "CQ" and get no response. As previously stated, contests are now allowing clusters to be used as an operator tool.

Another etiquette fact to consider is to never trash ANYBODY on the cluster! If a "lid" is transmitting on the DX's frequency, ignore him. If somebody spots "P5BS" instead of "G5BS", ignore it. Never, never send trash talk on the cluster.

Try not to send test spots either. Test spots only clog up the cluster. They also cause many bells to go off around the world, causing grief to DX'ers who really need a rare DXCC entity for which you sent a "fake" callsign. If you must test spot, don't send rare-DX callsigns such as BS7, P5, or 70 - spot your own call, and explain what you're doing. Once someone did accidently send the callsign of a station on the DX Cluster with the prefix of "P5", instead of "SP5" and wow, they got emails and phone calls from some mad DX'ers who needed P5 as a new one. It was reported that some DX'ers said they had left work, took

Page 5 The LongPath June 2024 Volume 48 Issue 6

# DX Cluster Spotting Etiquette (continued)

time off to hurry home, and powered-up their equipment to find only static. I am sure the spotter learned a hard lesson from this.

Another fact to consider. Don't send, "I can't hear him!" This is completely useless, considering everyone has different antennas, radios, QTH's, etc. Many times, the DXpeditions are not connected via any clusters because they do not have internet service, so sending messages like "signals building" or "PSE QSY to 20m" does not add anything, but urges some to send trash on the cluster(s) in response to a spot such as this.

One of the most annoying pet-peeves of mine using the DX Cluster is when a DX'er sends a spot and it is not the frequency of the DX station, but the frequency of the spotter. Sometimes, I need a DX station for a new band country or an "ALL Time New One" (ATNO), and I go to where they are spotted and receive no signal. I waste time searching around trying to find the DX that I need. Sometimes a spot may come from a DX'er on the other side of the world who hears and works them, but those of us on this side of the world have no propagation. Please only spot the DX using the DX's transmit frequency, not your (spotter) frequency. I could not care less which frequency you worked the DX. Sometimes it does help to add a comment like "listening up 5 to 10".

There are more things that happen on the cluster and are sent on the cluster, but I wanted to identify only a few of the top issues that I have seen on the DX clusters that could be classified as improper etiquette. My hope is that we all will think before clogging up the cluster with unnecessary cluster traffic that is meaningless to other DX'ers.

## **Upcoming NADXC Meeting**

Tuesday, June 11th, 2024 5:45 PM Doors Open / 6:30 PM Meeting

**Presentation:** Rob Suggs, NN4NT - NN4SA Club Overview and Activities

Location: Signals Museum of Information Explosion, 1806 University Drive NW, Huntsville, AL 35801 and via Zoom

**NOTE:** We are using an alternate Zoom link for May and June 2024. Use the above link to join. Previous links will not work.

# 2024 DX Banquet tickets are available for purchase.

**Presentation:** Gene Spinelli, K5GS—TX5S Clipperton Island DXpedition

**Date: Evening of** Saturday, August 17th

**Location:** Signals Museum of Information Explosion, 1806 University Drive NW, Huntsville, AL 35801

Tickets can be purchased on the NADXC website.

Page 6 The LongPath June 2024 Volume 48 Issue 6

### **Upcoming DX Contests**

By Chuck Lewis, N4NM

#### Batavia DX Contest, (SSB), 80, 40, 10 Meters



June 8, 0000Z to June 9, 1400Z Exchange: RS, "DX" or 2-char Indonesia province

See page 79, June QST and <a href="https://batavia.orarilokaljakut.or.id/">https://batavia.orarilokaljakut.or.id/</a>





#### GACW WWSA CW DX Contest, (CW), 80-10 meters

June 8, 1500Z to June 9, 1500Z

Exchange: RST, CQ zone

See page 79, June QST and <a href="https://gacw.ar">https://gacw.ar</a>

#### Asia-Pacific Sprint, (SSB), 20-15 meters



June 8, 1100Z to 1300Z Exchange: RS, Serial # See page 79, June QST and www.jsfc.org/apsprint/aprule.txt

#### Portugal Day Contest, (SSB/CW), 80-10 meters



June 8, 1200Z to June 11, 1200Z Exchange: RS(T) and 8 or district code See page 79, June QST, and <a href="http://portugaldaycontest.rep.pt/rules.php">http://portugaldaycontest.rep.pt/rules.php</a>

#### Pajajoran Bogor DX Contest, (SSB), 80 – 10m



June 15, 0000Z to 2359Z Exchange: RS, Serial #

See page 79, June QST and www.pbdx-

contest.id

#### All Asian DX Contest (CW), 160-10M



June 15, 0000Z to June 16, 2359Z Exchange: RST plus age

See page 79, June QST and www.jarl.org/

**English** 



#### SMIRK Contest, (SSB/CW), 6 meters

June 15 0000Z to 2359Z

Exchange: 4-Char. grid square, member number

(optional)

See page 79, June QST and www.smirk.info

#### Stew Perry Topband Challenge (CW), 160 meters



June 15, 1500Z to June 16, 1500Z Exchange: 4-character grid square See page 79, June QST and <a href="http://www.kkn.net/stew/">http://www.kkn.net/stew/</a>

#### IARU Region 1 50 MHz Contest, (SSB/CW), 6M



June 17, 1400Z to June 18, 1400Z Exchange: RS(T) plus Serial # plus 6character grid square

See: page 79, June QST and www.IARU-

r1.org

#### IARU HF World Championships (SSB/CW), 160-10m



July 13, 1200Z to July 14 1200Z Exchange: RS(T) plus ITU zone; IARU HQ stns send HQ abbrev.

See <a href="http://www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-championship">http://www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-championship</a>

#### **OTHERS:**

- REF DDFM 6 Meter Contest, 1600Z June 8 to 1600Z June 9
- WAB 50 MHz, Phone Contest, 0800Z to 1400Z June 16
- His Maj. King of Spain Contest, SSB, 1200Z
   Jun 22 to 1200Z Jun 23
- Marconi Memorial HF Contest, 1400Z July 6 to 1400 July 7

Dates & times often change or are misprinted in the journals; beware. See also: <a href="http://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html">http://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html</a>

Page 7 The LongPath June 2024 Volume 48 Issue 6



## **DXpeditions in June 2024**



## Reprinted with permission of Bill Feidt, NG3K

2024	2024	Glorioso Is	FT4GL	LoTW	By FH4VVK fm Grande Glorioso I (IOTA AF-011); HF; QSL via
May24	Jun19				F4FTV
2024	2024	St Kitts & Nevis	V47JA	LoTW	By W5JON fm Calypso Bay, St. Kitts; 160-6m; SSB FT8; yagi,
May28	Jun13				verticals; QSL also OK via W5JON direct
2024	2024	Pitcairn	VP6DF	LoTW	By WJ2O fm IOTA OC-063; 160-10m; CW; QSL via N2ZN
May30	Jun10				
2024	2024	Crete	SV9	DK5EW	By DK5EW as SV9/DK5EW; 6 4m
May30	Jun20			Direct	
2024	2024	Greenland	OX3LX	OZ0J	By OZ1BJJ fm IOTA NA-151 (HP15eo); HF; spare time operation
Jun01	Jun15				
2024	2024	Mozambique	C91AHV	LoTW	By CT7AHV; 40 20 15 10 6m; SSB CW FT8; QSL via EA5GL
Jun01	Jun15		CJIAIIV	LOTVV	
2024	2024	Honduras	HQ9EB	AB5EB	By AB5EB fm Roatan I (IOTA NA-957; mainly 6m; 8 ele yagi
Jun05	Jun11		HQJLB		
2024	2024	St Martin	FS	LoTW	By K9EL as FS/K9EL; 6m + HF; holiday style operation; QSL via
Jun05	Jun19				Club Log OQRS (preferred) or K9EL
2024	2024	Mariana Is	KHON	JA6CNL (B/d)	By JA6CNL; HF; mainly FT8 FT4
Jun06	Jun12				
2024	2024	Niger	5U5K	IK2DUW	By IV3FSG; 160-6m; SSB FT8 FT4, some CW
Jun06	Jun20			Direct	
2024	2024	Br Virgin Is	VP2V	LoTW	By WE9G as VP2V/WE9G fm FK78qk; 80-6m (incl 60m); FT8 FT4
Jun09	Jun12				SSB, perhaps CW; 100w; QSL via Club Log OQRS or WE9G direct
2024	2024	Lord Howe I	VK9LA	LoTW	By 160-10m; CW SSB FT8; QSL vi YL2GN
Jun14	Jun24		VKSLA	20111	
2024	2024	Maldives	8Q7JF	F LoTW	By DL6JF fm Helengeli Atoll; HF; CW + digital; holiday style
Jun16	Jun29		00/31		operation; QSL via DM5JBN
2024	2024	Tanzania	5H3DX	LoTW	By NK8O; HF; CW FT4 FT8; 100w; spare time operation
Jun18	Jun30				
2024	2024	Minami	a JD	LoTW	By JG8NQJ as JG8NQJ/JD1; HF; CW FT8; 50w; spare time
Jun20	Jul20	Torishima			operation; to continue for 3 months; QSL via JA8CJY
2024	2024		Turks & VP5 Caicos	LoTW	By AA5UK fm Providenciales (FL31uu) as VP5/AA5UK 40-6m; FT8
Jun23	Jul05				RTTY Olivia, SSB
2024	2024	Wallis & Futuna	FW7JV	LoTW	By AA7JVI; mainly 160 80m; check 1827.5; QSL via HA7RY
Jun24	Jun30				
2024	2024	American Samoa	K8K LoT	LoTW	By 160-10m; CW SSB FT8; QSL vi YL2GN
Jun26	Jul09			LOTVV	



Page 8 The LongPath June 2024 Volume 48 Issue 6

### **Club Business and Announcements**

### May 2024 Meeting Minutes

by Fred Kepner, K3FRK

May 14th, 2024 — The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by President Bruce Smith, AC4G.

Attendance: AC4G, AG4W, AI4U, AJ4T, AK4PR, K3FRK, K8KI, KF4BOG, KG4TEI, KM4BGF, KQ4CTD, KQ4VT, N4BCD, N4CNZ, N4JR, N4KH, N4NM, N5DF, NN4NT, W4WB, W5WQQ, and one unidentified attendee on Zoom.

- Bruce introduced Chris Gibbs, KQ4CTD, who introduced himself and talked about his radio interests.
- There were no new member applications.
- Bruce read through the DX worked by various members in attendance.
- Club dues are still being collected. There are currently 48 paid members.
- The LongPath included several good articles by Barry W4WB, Steve AG4W, Chuck N4NM, Barry WA4HR, and Bruce AC4G.
- Bruce introduced an initiative to select 4 club awards each year: Best Program, Best LongPath Article, President's Award, and DXer of the Year.
- The April minutes were approved by vote.
- Bruce discussed the club financial status. The bank balance is currently lower than at the beginning of the year. That is due to payments for banquet related items, Zoom use, and several DXpeditions funded.
- Banquet Ticket sales are at \$315 (sales to 7 members). K5GS will provide the presentation on his Clipperton Island DXpedition. Bruce encouraged members to buy their tickets

soon.

- Banquet prizes need to be solicited. Bruce will send an email to the vendors who donated last year.
- Bruce announced that Barry, WA4HR resigned as Secretary/Treasurer. We will take nominations and vote at the June meeting. Some of the duties are tracking the roster and membership dues paid, paying banquet and other bills, taking in banquet ticket sales, maintaining the bank and PayPal accounts, helping maintain and track the budget, taking meeting minutes, and taking Board of Directors meeting minutes. Please email any nominations to Bruce, AC4G.
- The club previously funded the 3YOK Bouvet DXpedition. The DXpedition is on hold and an announcement is expected to be made on status in June. The DXpedition leader told Bruce that the donation would be returned if it is cancelled.
- N1DG asked for a donation to the Jarvis Island DXpedition. AG4W stated his support for the DXpedition leaders. Bruce suggested funding the DXpedition. AG4W encouraged the club to give a larger size donation. A vote was held and a sponsorship of \$200 was approved.
- A discussion occurred about the N1DG request to ARRL DXCC to separate Jarvis Island from Palmyra Atoll.
- A letter was received from DXpedition leaders from T32EU requesting funding for their past DXpedition. A motion was made and passed to send \$100.

Page 9 The LongPath June 2024 Volume 48 Issue 6

# May 2024 Meeting Minutes (continued)

- Steve, AG4W mentioned an upcoming DXpedition to Burkina Faso (XT) for Oct 30-mid Nov.
   There will be a focus on low bands and all modes. More details will come later.
- Steve, AG4W reported on his trip to the International DX Convention in Visalia, CA. Seven radios and about 80 other prizes were given out. Steve gave two presentations on the TJ9MD DXpedition. Steve won a raffle for a stay in the Presidential Suite at the host hotel.
- N4BCD, K8KI, KF4BOG, and AG4W will be attending Dayton.
- Chris reminded everyone about Field Day and asked for volunteers to operate shifts on the HARC Field Day team. Specifically, they need

- a 15/40m CW Station Manager. Chris is an SSB Station Manager and is also looking to fill SSB shifts.
- N4BCD mentioned that W4DXCC is permanently moving to Huntsville, to be held the
  Thursday prior to Hamfest. It will be held at
  the SPARKS museum in 2024.
- N4NM mentioned that Johnny Winter's tower was lost to last weekend's storm.
- Barry W4WB gave out several radio books.
- K8KI offered several books from Bob Luther's estate to anyone interested.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:21pm

After the meeting, Bruce provided a program high-lighting 6m - "Six Meters: You Must Be Present to Win!"

#### **Announcements**

# Congratulations to Chuck Lewis, N4NM!

Chuck finished in 1st place for the Southeastern Division in the Single Operator, QRP category of the 2023 ARRL November Sweekstakes.

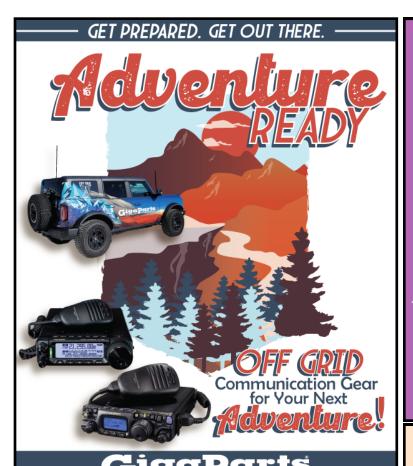
A list of winners and the full results can be found in the May 2024 edition of QST.

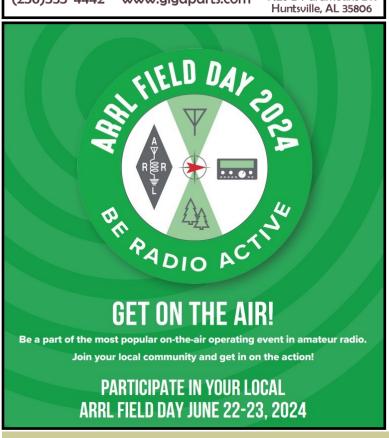
# Nominations for Club Treasurer/Secretary needed.

A special election will take place at the June 11th meeting to select the club's Treasurer/ Secretary. Filling this position is imperative as the August DX banquet is quickly approaching. The Treasurer/Secretary is responsible for paying club bills, updating membership records as dues are paid, depositing club income, and taking meeting minutes.

Please contact Bruce Smith, AC4G to volunteer or nominate another club member.

Page 10 The LongPath June 2024 Volume 48 Issue 6





www.gigaparts.com

(256)535-4442



It's time to pay 2024 membership dues.

Dues can be paid electronically at the NADXC website. Contact Barry, WA4HR (treasurer@nadxc.org) for information about other payment options.

#### 2024 NADXC Officers and Directors

President Bruce Smith, AC4G Vice President Fred Kepner, K3FRK

Sec./Treasurer Vacant

Directors: Mick Bell, N8AU

Bob De Pierre, K8KI

(Ex-Officio)

#### **How to Join**

Come to a club meeting or send in an application by mail (form on <a href="https://www.NADXC.org">www.NADXC.org</a>)

### **Monthly Meetings**

Meetings are held at the Museum of Information Explosion at 6:30pm on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Participants can also join the meeting virtually via Zoom.

This edition of The LongPath published by: Fred Kepner, K3FRK

Page 11 The LongPath June 2024 Volume 48 Issue 6

1426 B Paramount DR

# North Alabama DX Club (NADXC) "Club Fact Sheet"

Who We Are: NADXC is a group of active radio amateurs with a deep compassion for working DX, contesting, and other aspects of Amateur Radio. We welcome everyone who is interested in joining our club. NADXC members are active in all facets of DX and contesting. The NADXC also donates funding for various DXpeditions all over the world. The NADXC sponsors a DX Banquet in mid-August of every year in conjunction with the Huntsville Hamfest in Huntsville, Alabama. NADXC members moderate various programs at club meetings and during the Huntsville Hamfest, covering amateur radio technical and operating topics for all to learn and enjoy. The NADXC sponsors a prestigious award at the end of year for the most deserving DXer of the Year from the NADXC club.

**DX Funding Policy:** The policy supports major DX peditions that meet our requirements for financial sponsorship. Details are available on the NADXC website and in the "Longpath" newsletter.

**Club History:** The NADXC was organized in December 1966 by a group of 12 charter members. The original constitution was adopted and signed on December 19, 1966. The first chairman was Dan Whitsett, W4BRE (SK). In the early-1970's, the NADXC was custodian of the W4, K4 QSL Bureau which became such a huge undertaking that it eventually was passed to other larger clubs. In January of 1977, the club bought a VHF repeater for sharing DX spots and hosting a weekly net on Wednesday nights. The repeater was located on Redstone Arsenal, Weeden Mountain using the frequencies of 147.91/147.31 MHz on two meters. Today, the repeater has been relocated and utilizes the frequencies of 147.90/147.30 MHz, with a callsign of W4QB. The weekly net has been discontinued. In 1980, the club started the monthly newsletter known as the "Longpath" which currently continues to be produced every month.

While organized as a DX club, NADXC members are active in all aspects of the hobby. We trust that this information will be of interest to all and hope all hams have a long and pleasant association with the NADXC.

**Requirements for Membership:** The NADXC welcomes all hams radio operators who have an interest in DXing. It does not matter whether you are a new ham, a seasoned ham operator, an old-timer to DXing, or a ham who has just been hit with the DX bug; everyone is welcome! See the club website: <a href="www.nadxc.org">www.nadxc.org</a>. Dues are paid in January of every year.

**Meetings:** The NADX club meets the second Tuesday night of every month, with the current location at the Signals Museum of Information Explosion (MIE) located at 1806 University Drive, Huntsville, Alabama and virtually via Zoom. Some members gather early to eat their dinner, socialize, discuss DX worked, and then we have a short business meeting starting at 6:30 P.M. CT. followed by an exciting, interesting program to help, entertain, and teach members about DX and amateur radio in general.

**Club Officers:** There are four elected officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer) and three elected directors on the NADXC Board of Directors. The current roster of club officers and directors can be seen of the NADXC web site or in the "Longpath" newsletter, which is uploaded each month to the club website.

**Website:** The NADXC club maintains a website at <u>www.nadxc.org</u>. This site provides club information and activities throughout the year about a variety of subjects related to the club, DX, and amateur radio.